GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3163
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2002
FRAUDULENT IMPORT OF PRINTING PRESSES
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) hasunearthed a racket in the fraudulent import of printing presses by several importers in the recent past;

(b) if so, the modus operandi of the racket;

(c) whether the Director General of Foreign Trade have failed to check such fraudulent imports;

(d) if so, the corrective steps taken in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such fraud in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (REVENUE) IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) No such racket in the fraudulent import of printing presses by several importers has been unearthed by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in last two years.However, 46 cases of illegal import of printing presses involving violation of EXIM Policy, namely, violation of actual user condition & diversion of machinery before completion of stipulated time, and misdeclaration of value/age of machinery, making the goods liable to confiscation and the importer to penalty under the provisions of Customs Act, 1962, have been detected by DRI during the last 3 years and current year upto February, 2002).

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. Safeguards have been made under the EXIM Policyto check fraudulent imports of second hand capital goods including printing presses.

(e) All field formations of the Customs Department including Directorateof Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to check fraudulent imports of goods including printing presses into the country.